

B1
charge formation and at least partially converting the uncharged group or atom into a charged group or atom, (c) polyols and further reaction of one or more hydroxyl group derived from the polyol with a compound containing a charged group or atom or a compound containing an uncharged group or atom capable of charge formation and at least partially converting said uncharged group or atom into a charged group or atom, and mixtures thereof;

with the proviso that if said second alcohol is a polyol with at least three hydroxyl groups, then said first alcohol is introduced into the process before or simultaneously with said second alcohol.

REMARKS

The present response amends claim 1 and requests reconsideration of the rejected claims. A Marked Version of the amendment is attached.

The amendment to claim 1 is supported by the specification on page 3, lines 11-12, and by examples 1-3 and 10-11 on pages 10-12 of the specification.

Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Schurmann (127). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Schurmann '127 refers to anionic polyurethane and dispersions thereof, the anionic polyurethanes being obtained by

- (a) reacting an aliphatic diol having an aliphatic substituent with at least 10 carbon atoms with a polyisocyanate to form a pre-polymer (preliminary adduct) with terminal isocyanate (NCO) groups,
- (b) reacting the chains of the resulting preliminary adduct with an aliphatic, monomeric diol having an acid group capable of salt formation and converting the the acid groups wholly or partially to salts by reaction with a base (col. 2, lines 1-15), or alternatively